17th March 1955]

Appointment of Harijans under the Block Development Scheme in Tellicherry and Payyanur.

* 1419 *Q.*—SRI M. CHADAYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of Harijans appointed under the Block Development Scheme in Tellicherry and Payyanur in Malabar district at their request?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Nil. (One person belonging to the Scheduled Caste has been appointed but not at his request.) "

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" Sir, may I know the reasons for not recruiting any Harijan as Block Development Officer? Is it due to the paucity of candidates from the community or due to any other reason? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, there is no idea behind the Government's action in recruiting persons with proper attitude for the work of Grama Sevaks. There is direct recruitment for the posts of Grama Sevaks and for the other posts persons from other departments are taken by transfer."

SRI O. KORAN :—" Sir, may I know why a Harijan was not posted in the place of one Sri K. Raman, a Harijan, employed in the Tellicherry Block Development area and whether there was no application for that post? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice to answer this question, but I may tell the hon. Member that there is no post reserved for Harijan as such."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, is it a fact that some of the applications of Harijans were turned down on the ground that they would be feeling a kind of inferiority complex in dealing with the villagers, particularly those belonging to the high caste, and if so, may I know whether this inferiority complex of officers may be overcome by the Government giving instructions? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I do not admit that there is any feeling of inferiority complex on the part of the officers. If they reject applications, it must be due to the fact that they do not find suitable applicants for selection."

* 1420 *Q.*—

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, I would like this question to be taken up later."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Yes."

(Taken after question No. 1430.)